CRADEMBE.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No.: 5660

Appl. No.

10/065,256

Applicant

Kaplan et al.

Filed

September 30, 2002

Art Unit

3731

Examiner

Julian W. Woo 013341-000014

Docket No. Customer No.:

24,239

For

SUTURE METHOD

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of July 9, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows. A Petition for Extension of Time and authorization to charge a deposit account to pay the petition fee are enclosed.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 35 of this paper.